

ABSTRACT

A system and method for virus protection of computers on a local area network (LAN) is disclosed. The LAN's anti-virus policy is programmed into the firewall, or other Internet access module, which applies that policy to the client computers on the LAN. This policy might include the frequency with which the anti-virus software is updated and the number of versions that the software is permitted to be out of date. Any client computer not meeting the policy is not permitted to access the Internet. The firewall can also update out of date client computers to make them compliant with the policy.